



Maritime OPINTEL Report

**(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS)
Report**

29 September 2013 – 30 October 2013

31 October 2013

Maritime Crime/Piracy

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1. (U) Scope Note

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides info on piracy threats to, and criminal action against, merchant vessels worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

2. (U) Summary

1. (U) SINGAPORE STRAIT: On 30 October, an underway asphalt tanker experienced a boarding near the Horsburgh Lighthouse.
2. (U) INDIA: On 30 October, an underway chemical tanker experienced a boarding approximately 2.5 nm SW of Outer Tuna Buoy, Kandla Anchorage.
3. (U) BANGLADESH: On 28 October, an anchored container ship experienced a boarding at Chittagong Anchorage.
4. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 October, an anchored chemical tanker experienced a boarding near Belawan Outer Anchorage.
5. (U) MALAYSIA: On 26 October, an underway chemical tanker experienced an attempted boarding approximately 35 nm ESE of Kuantan Port.
6. (U) INDONESIA: On 23 October, an anchored tanker experienced a boarding near Gresik Anchorage.

3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for October and November 2013. Merchant vessels that wish to apply for JMSDF escort operation should visit http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html, please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932 Fax: +81-3-5253-1643 Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp (MSCHOA).

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Korean Navy convoy schedule for October and November 2013. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at (INMARSAT: 870-773-110-374), (Email: rokcheonghae@gmail.com) (MSCHOA).

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Chinese Navy convoy schedule for October and November 2013. For further information, please e-mail cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn, cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn, or call Tel: 86-10-652-92221 Fax: 86-10-652-92245 (MSCHOA).

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for October and November 2013. To register, email antipiracyescort@dgshipping.com or dgcommcentre@satyammil.net, or visit www.dgshipping.com. Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22- 22613636 (MSCHOA).

4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the last 30 days. Designation of a high-threat area is based on an assessment of all source information relating to the existence of, or potential for, piracy and other crime, terrorism, civil unrest, or low-intensity conflict. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later learned to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

A. (U) **NORTH AMERICA:** No current incidents to report.

B. (U) **CENTRAL AMERICA–CARIBBEAN:**

1. (U) **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** On 20 October, a moored LPG tanker was boarded by two robbers at position 18:24 N – 070:01 W, Rio Haina Refidomsa. Alert duty crew noticed the robbers lowering the rescue boat engine to a waiting escape boat. Alarm sounded and the robbers immediately left the engine and escaped. The crew retrieved the engine using the line that was being used to lower it away from the ship. Further inspection revealed that several items from the rescue boat were missing. Local agent and mooring master informed. (IMB)

2. (U) **GUYANA:** On 19 October, an anchored bulk carrier was boarded by four robbers armed with knives at position 06:48 N - 058:10 W, Georgetown Port. The robbers threatened the duty

crewman on the forecastle deck, slapped him and forced him to open the forecastle storeroom. When the duty officer called the deck watch keeper and received no response, he raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew response, the robbers escaped in a waiting boat with stolen items. The port authority was called, but there was no response. (IMB)

3. (U) GRENADA: On 6 October between 0145 and 0430, robbers boarded sailing vessel SOULMATIE in Prickly Bay by Calabash Beach. The owners were not present when the incident occurred, but found the perpetrator(s) forced open the locked companionway and stole cash and most of the loose electronics. (noonsite.com)

4. (U) ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES: On 3 October at 2040, a group of men with machetes boarded sailing vessel RAINBOW off Union Island at Frigate Island. They attacked the two people onboard; one of whom fought off the attackers. Local rescue, Coast Guard, and police were able to respond and had an ambulance waiting for their medical care. (noonsite.com)

5. (U) SURINAME: On 1 October at 1100, fishing vessels TARA 1 and OMI 5 were attacked near Coronie in the Corentyne River. Five masked men armed with cutlasses attacked the TARA 1, threw two tied-up fishermen overboard, and kidnapped a third. They destroyed the engine and emptied TARA 1 of about \$180,000 of trout, snapper, and kingfish; \$37,000 in groceries, \$17,000 in vegetables, and \$140,000 in cooking gas (currency could not be determined). The men then took the crewmember to OMI 5, and left him onboard. The perpetrators beat five OMI 5 crewmembers and stole fish, fish glue, and fuel from their boat; then transferred the five crewmembers to the TARA 1. (Georgetown Kaieteur News Online in English)

6. (U) TOBAGO: On 26 September at 0100, four men boarded a cruising catamaran in Bloody Bay. A crewmember was restrained and threatened with a pistol while the captain attempted to repel the men and was hit with the flat side of his own machete. Another captain of the other cruising boat in the bay was fired at twice as she attempted to approach in her dinghy. After firing at the dinghy and discovering the crew of the catamaran only had a small amount of money, the men departed the vessel in a panicked state. Police later interviewed the captain. (noonsite.com)

C. (U) **ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA**: No current incidents to report.

D. (U) **NORTHERN EUROPE–BALTIC**: No current incidents to report.

E. (U) **MEDITERRANEAN–BLACK SEA**: No current incidents to report.

F. (U) **WEST AFRICA**:

1. (U) NIGERIA: During the early hours of 23 October, pirates attacked the U.S.-flagged offshore supply vessel C RETRIEVER near Brass and kidnapped the captain and chief engineer, both U.S. citizens. (Reuters)

H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN–EAST AFRICA:

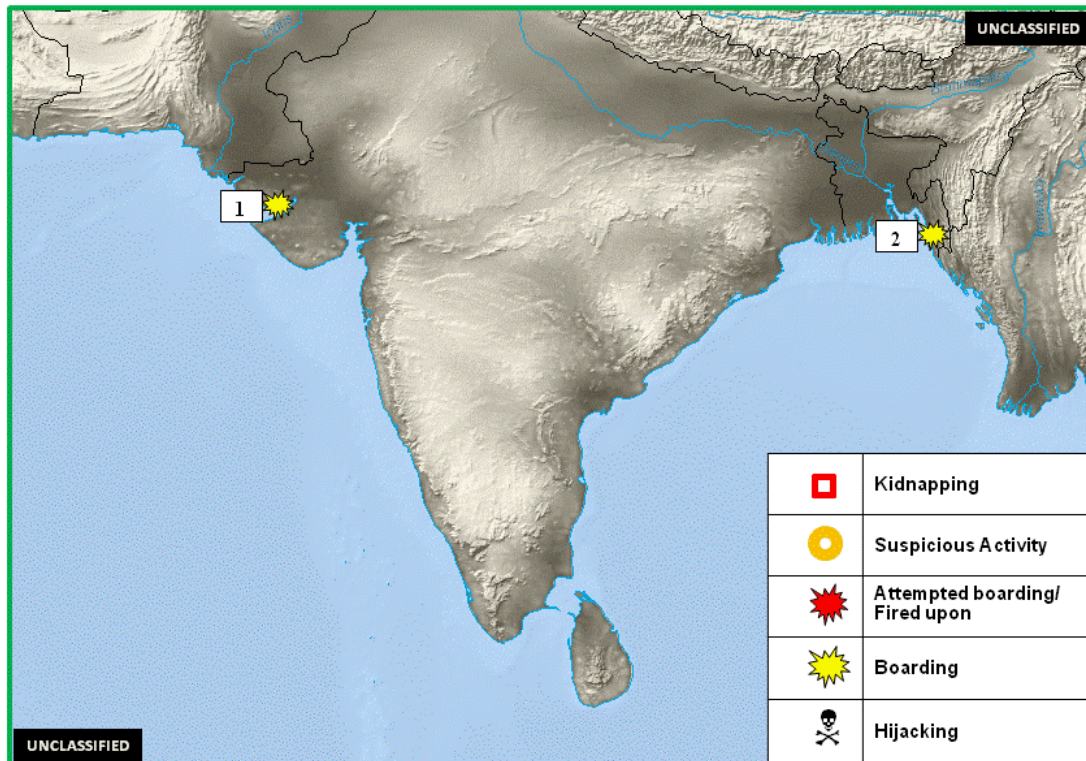


Figure 1. INDIAN OCEAN–EAST AFRICA Maritime Crime Activity, 24-30 October 2013

1. (U) INDIA: On 30 October, an underway chemical tanker experienced a boarding near position 22:49 N – 70:05 E, approximately 2.5 nm SW of Outer Tuna Buoy, Kandla Anchorage. During routine rounds, duty crewman noticed two robbers boarding the vessel near the amidships storeroom. He immediately informed the Duty Officer who raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Upon seeing the crew response, the robbers fled the scene with stolen ship stores. A total of five robbers were seen escaping on the boat. Kandla Port Authority relayed incident information to local Coast Guard office. (IMB)

2. (U) BANGLADESH: On 28 October, an anchored container ship experienced a boarding at position 21:50 N - 091:38 E, Chittagong Anchorage. Duty crewman noticed five to six robbers at the poop deck while conducting routine rounds. He immediately informed bridge and the alarm was raised. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores in their unlit boat. (IMB)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 22 October, an anchored LPG tanker was boarded by seven armed robbers at position 22:49 N – 070:06 E, Kandla Anchorage. They forced open the forward storeroom and stole ship's property. Duty crewman on watch noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. The robbers subsequently threatened the crew with knives and then jumped overboard and escaped. Port authorities were informed. (IMB)

4. (U) INDIA: On 20 October, an anchored tanker was boarded by three robbers at position 17:36 N - 083:26 E, Visakhapatnam Anchorage. The robbers were able to steal ship's stores and escape when spotted by crewmembers on duty. (IMB)
 5. (U) MOZAMBIQUE: On 15 October at 2050 local time, three robbers with knives approached a berthed container ship in a small wooden boat near position 19:49 S – 034:50 E, Berth Number Five in Beira Port. One of the robbers boarded the ship and was noticed. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. The robber jumped overboard with some ship stores and escaped in their boat. The port authority was informed. (IMB)
 6. (U) INDIA: On 11 October, Sri Lankan fishermen attacked a boat southeast of the Kodiyakkarai coast. They were assaulted by Sri Lankan fishermen in four boats with sharp weapons. They also stole their catch and GPS equipment. (New Indian Express)
 7. (U) INDIA: On 11 October, Sri Lankan fishermen attacked another fishing boat, stole their catch, and GPS equipment off Vellapallum. (New Indian Express)
 8. (U) SOMALIA: On 11 October at 0918 UTC, pirates in two skiffs fired upon the tanker ISLAND SPLENDOR approximately 237 nm east of Hobyo. The master raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle, increased speed, and mustered the crew. The armed embarked security team took position and fired warning rocket flares as the skiffs closed to 2 and 3 nm. The skiffs ignored the warning flares and continued their approach. The armed security team fired a warning shot when one skiff closed to a distance of about 437 yards; however, the pirates continued their approach the tanker. One of the skiffs stopped and returned fire with an automatic weapon after the team fired a second warning shot at a distance of about 273 yards. The armed team returned fire, which resulted in the skiffs aborting the attack and departing the area. The pirates were also armed with RPGs. (IMB, IMO)
 9. (U) BANGLADESH: On 9 October, unidentified individuals fired at two fishing trawlers in the Bay of Bengal near Charfashion Upazila. They hijacked a fishing trawler and kidnapped 21 fishermen onboard. Twenty-two fishermen jumped into the sea and were later rescued by different fishing trawlers. (United News of Bangladesh)
 10. (U) BANGLADESH: On 9 October, unidentified individuals boarded a trawler in the bay near the Tin Char area and stole goods, including fish fries (small fish) worth between \$8,992 to \$10,277. (United News of Bangladesh)
- I. (U) **PERSIAN GULF**: No current incidents to report.

J. (U) SOUTHEAST ASIA:

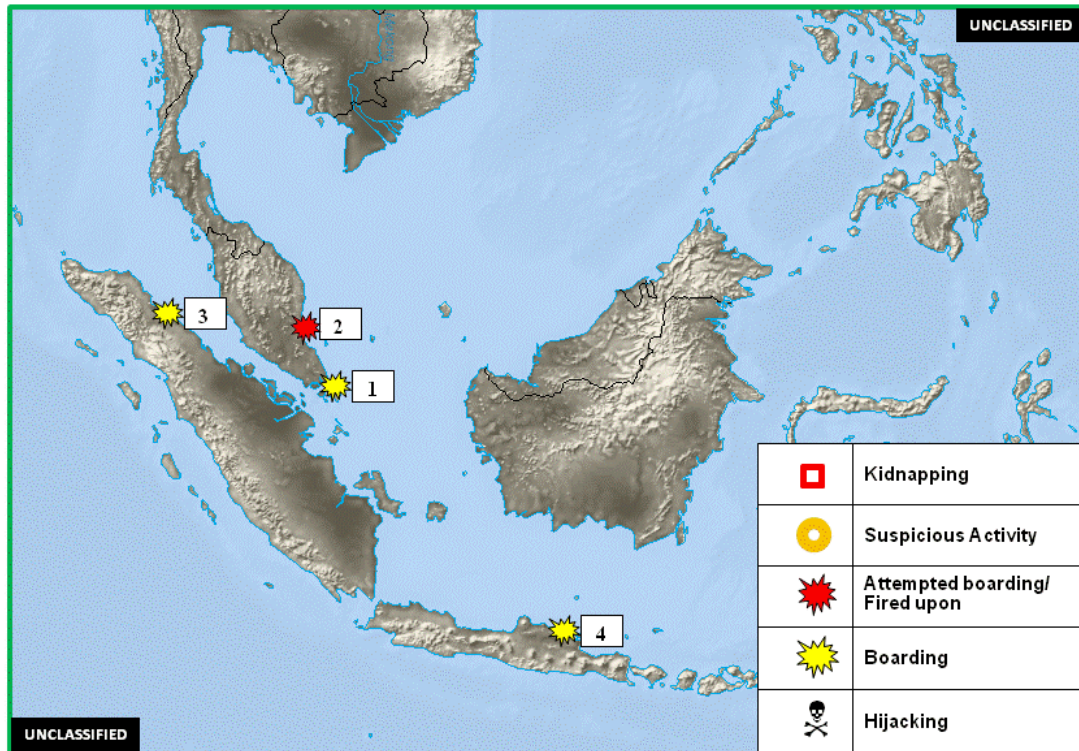


Figure 2. Southeast Asia Maritime Crime Activity, 24-30 October 2013

1. (U) SINGAPORE STRAIT: On 30 October, an underway asphalt tanker experienced a boarding near position 01:21 N – 104:24 E, near the Horsburgh Lighthouse. Five robbers armed with guns and long knives boarded the ship unnoticed. They took hostage the Watch Officer and duty crewman and tied their hands. The robbers took the Watch Officer to his cabin and stole personal belongings and cash and then stole belongings from four other crew cabins before escaping. (IMB)

2. (U) MALAYSIA: On 26 October, an underway chemical tanker experienced an attempted boarding near position 03:40 N - 103:55 E, approximately 35 nm ESE of Kuantan Port. Two speed boats approached and tried to come alongside the ship while underway. Duty Officer raised alarm and the crew mustered. Master activated the SSAS, switched on all the deck lights and altered course away from land. Seeing the crew response, the boats aborted the boarding and moved away. (IMB)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 October, an anchored chemical tanker experience a boarding near position 03:56 N - 098:45 E, Belawan Outer Anchorage. Three skiffs approached the ship from the stern, forward and amidships. From the aft skiff, three robbers boarded the vessel and stole ship's properties. Crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping. Port authority was informed. (IMB)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 23 October, an anchored tanker experienced a boarding near position 07:05 S - 112:39 E, Gresik Anchorage. Two robbers in a small unlit boat approached and boarded the ship. Alert crew on watch noticed the robbers near the forecastle, raised the alarm and sounded the forward horn resulting in the robbers jumping overboard and escaping without stealing anything. (IMB)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 22 October, an anchored chemical tanker was boarded from the stern by four armed robbers at position 01:42 N-101:26 E, Dumai Inner Anchorage. Alert deck watch crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm, which caused the robbers to flee empty-handed. All crew safe. Local agent informed. (IMB)

6. (U) INDONESIA: On 22 October, an anchored chemical tanker was boarded at position 03:47 N - 098:46 E, Belawan Anchorage. Duty crew on routine rounds notice the mid-ship storeroom lock broken and ship stores stolen. Port authorities were informed. Robbers escaped unnoticed. (IMB)

7. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 October, Six robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier via the anchor chain at position 00:14 S - 117.33 E, Muara Berau Anchorage. The robbers took hostage two duty watchmen, tied them up, and stole their personal belongings. After 45 minutes, the duty officer on routine deck rounds noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. (IMB)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 19 October, three robbers boarded an anchored tanker at position 01:25 N - 104:34 E, 11 nm north of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintann. Duty crew noticed the robbers in the engine room, raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped empty handed in their boat. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore informed. (IMB)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 October at 2000 local time, three robbers in a small boat approached and boarded anchored chemical tanker NORD NIGHTINGALE near position 06:10' S - 106:48 E, Jakarta Tanker Anchorage. The alert duty crew noticed the robbers and shouted at them; which resulted in the robbers escaping empty handed in their boat. (IMB, IMO)

10. (U) MALAYSIA: On 10 October at 0530 local time, nine hijackers wearing masks and carrying guns boarded underway oil product tanker DANAI 4 with a speedboat 20 nm southeast of Pulau Aur. They hijacked the tanker, took the crew hostage, and destroyed all the communications equipment. The hijackers disembarked on 15 October; stealing ship's cargo, cash, crew personal belongings and cash, and portable communications equipment. The master contacted the owners and informed them of the incident. There were no injuries to the crew. The tanker had marine gas oil and 15 crewmembers onboard. (IMB, ReCAAP)

11. (U) INDONESIA: On 10 October at 0315 local time, five robbers with long knives boarded anchored bulk carrier PORT HAINAN near position 01:57 N - 118:05 E, Muara Berau anchorage, Samarinda. They held one crewmember hostage while they broke into storage and stole some ship's stores. The officer of the watch was alerted, the alarm was raised, and the crew proceeded towards the forecastle. After the robbers saw the alert crew, they jumped overboard and escaped. There were no injuries to the crew. (IMB, IMO)

12. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 October at 0342 local time, four robbers with knives boarded product tanker SKS DONGGANG performing ship-to-ship transfer (STS) operations near position 01:08 N -103:25 E, Karimun Transshipment Area. One robber remained in their boat. Another group of robbers was discovered onboard the other STS tanker and an alarm was raised. The crew spotted the robbers, who escaped without stealing anything. (IMB, IMO)

13. (U) INDONESIA: On 7 October at 0345 local time, five robbers boarded anchored tanker PIONEER EXPRESS during STS operations near position 01:08 N -103:25 E, Karimun Transshipment Anchorage. Robbers boarded via the poop deck and attempted to enter the accommodation area. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers made threatening gestures to the crew, jumped overboard, and escaped in their unlit boat that had an orange superstructure. The mooring master and the other STS vessel were informed as well. A detailed search on both vessels indicated that the robbers had boarded both vessels. Port control was informed. (IMB, IMO)

14. (U) INDONESIA: On 6 October at 0410 local time, six robbers dressed in black boarded anchored tanker ARMADA ALI near position 01:09 N – 103:35 E Nipah anchorage and tried to enter the accommodation area. The alert duty officer raised the alarm and sounded the ship's whistle. The robbers heard the alarm, jumped overboard, and escaped in their wooden boat, that had an orange canopy. Vessels in the vicinity were alerted via VHF. The crew mustered and a search was carried out. (IMB, IMO)

15. (U) INDONESIA: On 6 October at 0242 local time, robbers attempted to board an anchored tanker that was preparing for STS operations near position 01:09 N – 103:35 E, Nipah anchorage. The duty crewmember noticed suspicious boats near aft of the vessel. As he approached he found ladders attached to the side of the ship and robbers trying to board the vessel. He immediately informed the officer of the watch (OOW) and raised the alarm. All of the crew proceeded towards the poop deck. The robbers saw the alert crew, aborted the attempt to board, and moved away. The vessel alongside the tanker and other vessels in the area were alerted of the incident. (IMB)

16. (U) INDONESIA: On 5 October at 0040 local time, robbers with knives boarded anchored tanker HS CARMEN that was awaiting cargo operations near position 08:10S – 117:33 E, Santan anchorage. The duty crew noticed movements at the forecastle, informed the bridge, and proceeded towards the forecastle to investigate. The duty officer raised the alarm and the crew mustered. Upon reaching the forecastle the robbers threatened the crews with long knives and escaped. The crew retrieved the stores the robbers were trying to steal. Port authorities were informed but no response was received. The incidents were reported to the local police via the ship's agent. (IMB, IMO)

17. (U) INDONESIA: On 1 October at 0355 local time, four robbers in a wooden boat approached and boarded an anchored chemical tanker at position 01:10 N – 003:58 E, the Batam Anchorage. When a crewmember noticed the robbers, he raised the alarm and the crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers threatened the duty crew with a long knife and escaped in their wooden boat. Nothing was reported stolen during the incident. (IMB)

K. (U) **NORTH ASIA:** No current incidents to report.

L. (U) **PACIFIC-ANTARCTIC OCEAN:** No current incidents to report.

5. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

(U) Contact

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

(U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm

6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

(U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

- (U) **Attempted Boarding** – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- (U) **Blocking** – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.
- (U) **Boarding** – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.

- **(U) Firing Upon** – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.
- **(U) Hijacking** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.
- **(U) Kidnapping** – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.
- **(U) Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- **(U) Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

(U) Sourcing

(U) ONI derives information in this report from direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources.

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News (BBC)
- Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Denmark (BIMCO)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- Fairplay (FP), London
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Informa Group (INFO), formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London
- Latitude38.com (LAT), website
- Lloyd's List (LL), daily, London
- Local media (LM)
- LSS-SAPU.com (LSS)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), US
- Maritime Security Council (MSC), US
- Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA), Northwood
- MaRisk by Risk Intelligence (Risk Intelligence/MaRisk)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization Shipping Center (NSC), Brussels
- Oceanuslive.org (OCL), website
- Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) (analysis and comment)
- Operator (owner or operator of affected vessel)
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), US
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters.com (Reuters), website
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)

- Secure Anchorage Area West Africa (SAA)
- Seafarers' Assistance Program (SAP), Kenya
- Tradewinds (TW)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain
- U.S. Department of State (DOS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

(U) **ICOD:** 30 October 2013